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A Brief

DESCRIPTION

Of A

NEW INVENTED, SMALL, yet ACCURATE

Astronomical Quadrant.

Particularly calculated for

Curious Observations at SEA,

But equally useful at LAND:

AND THAT

Either by DAY or by NIGHT.

Together with some useful

PROBLEMS for finding the *LATITUDE*
In Failure of a Meridian ALTITUDE;

Propos'd in such a Manner as to make the Calculation Easy and Expeditious; and freed from some Errors they were before liable to.

WITH

MAPS of the STARS,

Laid down in a different,

But more intelligible Manner than usual, and design'd as a Guide to the Knowledge of them.

By ELIAS PLEDGER.

LONDON:

Printed for W. MEADOWS, at the *Angel* in *Cornhill*. 1731.
[Price Two Shillings.]

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THE PREFACE.



NAVIGATION, tho' it be one of the most useful and profitable Arts, has yet receiv'd less Improvement in this Age than any other Art whatsoever. And however strange the Assertion may seem, yet this, in my Opinion, is greatly owing to the extravagant Rewards that have been offer'd to any Person, that should solve the Grand Problem of finding the Longitude at Sea. This like the Philosopher's Stone hath set many Heads to work, and hath occasion'd a Multitude of trifling and fruitless Schemes and Projects for the attaining of it; scarcely a Year passing without one or other's pretending to the Invention. And the World hath so often been disappointed in its Expectations, when any Thing of this Kind hath been publish'd, that it hath occasion'd the Neglect of many good Inventions propos'd to-

gether with it, which might, in many other Cases, have been very serviceable. Almost all Inventions that have had any Tendency towards the Solution of the Problem, have been generally kept in reserve by the Inventors, in hopes that hereafter they might turn to their Advantage. And thus the Means that perhaps were design'd to improve the Art, have occasionally proved a very great Hindrance to it: For it is not the Improvement of Navigation, but the Reward for finding of the Longitude that most People have had in View.

Those who have been most skill'd in these Affairs, and have been most likely to publish any Thing of that Kind, have never yet attempted it; well knowing that besides the Difficulty of finding the Moon's true Place, there are also many other Things previously necessary to it. Such as, more accurate Instruments than any yet in use at Sea, for the Ascertaining the true Point of Time; Instantaneous, or at least, perfect Observations for the Latitude. For if these could be procured, I make no doubt but that the best, at least the readiest way of finding the Longitude, would be by Means of a good Watch: Which is a Thing that is now brought to a very high Degree of Perfection, and may much more safely be trusted to, than the inaccurate and erroneous Altitudes and Latitudes with which it has been usually compared. But further, supposing the Longitude was actually found, and that to all the Certainty that could be

be desired ; it would still be entirely unavailing for Practice, till the Longitude of Places be truly laid down ; for if there be any Possibility of Uncertainty in either, it will be very difficult to judge in which the Error lies.

It were therefore greatly to be wisht that some publick Care might be taken concerning this very Thing in particular, for which there are already very easy and sufficient Helps proposed, by Means of the Eclipses of Jupiter's Satellites. A Thing of great Use, but for Want of a moderate and reasonable Reward, too much neglected.

The Things I have here propos'd in the following Papers have all of them some Tendency to answer the necessary Ends I have been mentioning. The Quadrant being useful at Land as well as at Sea, is very well suited to find the true Time on Shore ; by which to observe the Immersions or Emersions of Jupiter's Satellites ; this would be a noble Entertainment to curious Commanders, whose Observations in the several Parts of the World, where their Occasions might lead them, would be of Service to the Publick.

A Telescope of 13 or 14 Feet would be very sufficient for the Purpose : And an Object-Glass of that Radius, with a suitable Eye-Glass would neither be very Chargeable nor Cumberfome ; for they may be used without the Tube, and will be sufficient for Use, only by fixing them on any common Pole at the proper

per Distance. I have my self in this Manner very plainly discern'd an Emerſion of the firſt Satellite with an Object-Glaſs of no more than 10 Feet in Length, and I do aſſure you that it is much the beſt Way, the Inſtrument being more manageable, and the Object more readily found, which is indeed the uſual Objection againſt the common Tubes.

I have divided the following Sheets into three Chapters, as they are three diſtinct Subjects; the firſt of which contains, The Deſcription of the Quadrant, and Directions for the Making of it.

The Second treats of an Obſervation for finding the Latitude in failure of a Meridian Altitude.

And the Third, of finding the ſame Things by the Stars, by Means of ſeveral Schemes and Tables peculiarly adapted to it.

The particular Tables of the Stars, to be uſed in the Solution of the laſt Problem are exactly calculated from the Places they will have about the Middle of Novr. 1731, and will hold good for many Years to come.

Their Diſtances thus found, do exactly agree with the Diſtances obſerved by Mr. Flamſtead, and may therefore ſafely be depended on,



A Brief
DESCRIPTION
OF A
NEW-INVENTED Small, yet Accurate
Astronomical QUADRANT.

CHAP. I.

*Containing the Description of the Quadrant,
and Directions for the making of it.*



THE finding of the true Altitude of the Sun or Stars is of so great Consequence in the Art of Navigation, for the Discovery of either the Latitude or Longitude; and there are so many other Problems entirely depending on the Knowledge of the Zenith Distance of any Phænomenon, that there cannot, in my Opinion,
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be too much Pains and Curiosity bestowed on any Instrument that is likely to answer that Purpose.

I have therefore turn'd my Thoughts that Way for some Years past, and have been endeavouring either to improve the Instruments now in use, or to invent some others that might be more especially serviceable to Mariners. And finding particularly, that the common Quadrants are often useless, thro' the Want of a perfect Horizon; and that the Difficulties attending the Instruments proper for making Observations by Night, are so great, as wholly to discourage many from the Use of them; though in the Practice of Navigation, those Observations are many times absolutely necessary: I first resolved on trying some Experiments in order to render the common Spirit-level useful for that Purpose; by applying it to a Quadrant, to answer the End of the Horizon. And having some small Glass Tubes by me, I fill'd one of them, leaving a small Bubble of Air. The Tube appear'd very streight, and I design'd to have fix'd it to my Quadrant, in order to try the Experiment; but I found, by laying it on a Plane, that the Effect was very different, according as different Parts of the Tube were upward; for when one particular Part (which I marked) was upward, I found I could not make the Bubble rest any where, but at ei-
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ther End: And that raising the Plane, as soon as ever it began to move from one end, it would immediately run to the other, & *Vice Versa*. I then try'd the contrary Side upwards, and upon raising the Plane again, I found the Bubble would then rest in any Part of the Tube; and that by raising it, or depressing it a certain Space, it would always be moved in an equal Proportion. Upon which I took a Ruler, and laying the Tube upon it, I soon found that it was a little bent, and was indeed the Portion of a very large Arch; and that when the *Concave* Side was upward, I could by no means fix the Bubble any where but at either End; but when the *Convex* Side was upward, I could then readily fix it in any Part of the Tube at Pleasure. The Reason was very obvious; and I was exceedingly pleas'd to think I had accidentally light upon a Method so very *à propos* to my Design, by which I could enlarge the Limb of my Quadrant to any Radius almost indefinitely, at least so much of it as might be necessary and sufficient for Practice. And immediately I went to a Glass-House to get some Tubes that might answer my Turn; and examining some that were ready blown, I pick'd out some four or five that I thought might do, and trying them upon my Return, I found them all good; but particularly one of them was the Portion of an Arch near sixty Foot Radius,

dus, which I found by fixing it to my Quadrant; for upon depressing it but one single Degree, the Bubble ran very near one whole Foot; and very regularly and quickly rested in any Part of the Tube, as I depressed my Quadrant little or much.

These Experiments I made about the latter End of *May*, 1728. as I find by my Papers; upon which I put down the several different Runs of the Bubble in each Tube, which was dated *May*, 31 1728. I had now got what I had been seeking for, and accordingly I marked on my Tube every single Minute of a whole Degree, and fix'd it to my Quadrant for Use. And I found it every way to answer my Purpose.

Shortly after I shew'd it to several of my Friends, who approved the Design, and I was then resolved to perfect it; and have been at Times, ever since endeavouring to improve it, in order to make it particularly useful at Sea. But going out of Town, it lay dormant for some time; when about a Year after, I read an Advertisement in the Papers, of a Quadrant for taking an Altitude at Sea without an Horizon; for which Mr. *Elton* had procured a Patent, and which was made and sold by Mr. *Sisson* in the *Strand*. I presently imagined that my Invention had gotten Air, by means of some Hint given concerning it; tho' I had desired my Friends not to divulge it, till I had brought it to greater

ter Perfection, when I design'd to publish it for a common Benefit. But upon going to view Mr. *Elton's* Quadrant, I found I was mistaken, for that his was made only by applying two common Spirit-levels to a *Davis's* Quadrant, somewhat alter'd to answer his Purpose, much after the same Manner I had first design'd: And that the Limb of his great Arch was divided as usual into Degrees and Minutes, and that his Glafs Tubes answer'd no other End than to find a Level.

However, as he had gotten a Patent for his Quadrant, I did not doubt but that there would soon be Numbers of them made; and that in a little Time I should hear how they answer'd at Sea. And accordingly, upon Enquiry, I have since understood that in fine Weather they will answer pretty well; and therefore I concluded that mine, depending upon a Bubble as well as his, tho' upon quite different Principles, would answer all the Purposes I design'd by it much better, and be moreover useful by Night as well as by Day. I do therefore now offer it to the Publick, hoping that some valuable Ends may be answer'd by it.

The Description of the QUADRANT.

THE Quadrant which I now propose, may be made of any Material, and to any Size. But that which I caused to be made

made for my self is of Box, and of the Semi-diameter of eighteen Inches; the Radii and Limb being about seven Tenths of an Inch thick. The Limb is divided to single Degrees only, and number'd at each Division. In Observation the Limb is always towards me, and the upper Radius nearly horizontal; and the Degrees begin with one at the perpendicular Radius, and end with 90° at the horizontal Radius.

To the Center is fix'd a Box-Ruler, that is an Inch and an half broad, and something more than three Tenths of an Inch thick; the End of which slides on the Limb by means of a Brass-Spring that goes half round it. In the End of the Ruler there is a small square Hole, just big enough to discover the Degree to which the Ruler is at any time fixed; and for that Purpose there is a fine Horse-hair placed in it, exactly on the Line that is drawn in the midst of the Ruler from the Center. On the Ruler are fixed three Vanes or Sights, being each about two Inches in the Perpendicular from it, about one Inch eight Tenths broad, and three Tenths and an half thick. The Middle of each Sight, is the Center of Holes of the following Diameters.

One Vane is fixed on the Ruler, at the Distance of about half an Inch from the Center; and in it is a Hole bored to receive an Object-Glass of about one Inch and two Tenths

Tenths Diameter. To cover this Glafs, there is a thin Brafs-Plate fix'd on a Center-pin, that is made to turn off or on at Pleasure, with a Pin to stay it. In the Center of this Plate, answering to the Center of the Sight, there is a small Hole or Aperture of two Tenths of an Inch Diameter.

In the Focus of this Object-Glafs, towards the Limb, is placed a second Sight, in which there is a plain Hole bored quite thro', of 1, 25 Inch Diameter; and on this also, there is a thin Brafs-Plate fix'd on a Center-pin, on that Face of the Sight nearest the Center, made to turn aside upon occasion; and on the Plate is marked a perpendicular and a horizontal Line, which cross each other exactly in the Center of the Sight. Turning aside the Brafs-Plate, you discover three fine Horse-hairs, which are also placed on that Face nearest the Center; one of them Horizontal, the other two Perpendicular to it; one on each Side of the perpendicular Line that is marked on the Sight, at the Distance of somewhat more than an half Tenth of an Inch from, and parallel to it; being so placed to prevent a Star's being wholly cover'd by a single perpendicular Hair.

The third Sight is placed at the Distance of about one Inch and seven Tenths from the Second, and about three Inches and an half from the End of the Ruler, which is rounded off, and is about half an
Inch

Inch beyond the outside Limb of the Quadrant. In this Sight is bored an Hole of about one Inch and an half in Diameter, to receive an Eye-glass of that Size ; and the Ledge of the Hole which the Glass rests upon, is as small as possible. The Focus of this Glass is two Inches, and the middle Sight must always be fix'd in the Focus of both.

On the upper Edge of the horizontal Radius, is a Groove near ten Inches and an half long ; which is some small matter deeper towards the Limb, than towards the Center, made to receive a Glass-tube of that length, and of about half an Inch in Diameter ; which is the Portion of an Arch of about thirty Foot Radius. This Tube is fill'd with fine Spirits, and then seal'd hermetically, leaving only a small Bubble of about eight Tenths of an Inch long. On the Tube is pasted a Paper, the Edge exactly along the Middle of the upper or convex Side. On the Edge of this Paper is marked the Run of the Bubble every single Minute of about one Degree and an half ; which was perform'd in the following Manner.

I first measured out exactly 50 Feet for my Radius, and seeking the Proportion of the Tangent of one Degree, by a Table of Natural Tangents, I found it 8,717 Inches, which 8 Inches and odd Parts, I divided exactly into 60 equal Parts, on a Paper's Edge, for the Tangents of each Minute of my Degree ;

gree; and continued them to 90 Minutes sufficiently correct. Having done this, I fixed the Paper in my Window exactly Perpendicular, and at the Distance of 50 Feet from it; and at the same Height I fixed a Plane moveable as on a Center, exactly at the Distance of 50 Feet from the Paper to the Center of Motion. On this Plane I fixed a Telescope of 3 Feet, with a curious single Hair (drawn from Worsted) in the Focus of its Eye-glass; and placing my Tube, the Convex Side upwards, and parallel to the Telescope, and both perpendicular to my Paper; I could, by looking thro' the Telescope, readily fix the Point of the Hair to any single Minute on the Paper, Half or Quarter: And so by gradually dropping that Part of my Plane nearest mine Eye, (which was therefore made heavier than the other Part on the other Side the Center of Motion) I readily raised my Plane thro' the whole 90 Minutes; at the same Time distinctly marking the Run of that End of the Bubble, which I design'd should be placed nearest the Center of my Quadrant. And trying it afterwards, I always found, that where-ever I fix'd my Telescope, the Paper in the Window, and the Bubble on my Tube, would exactly correspond.

The Tube thus prepared, is then fixed in the Groove; that End of the Bubble which I mark'd the Minutes by, nearest the Center. And mine is so placed, that when the upper

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Radius

Radius is exactly Horizontal, the Bubble will then rest within four or five Minutes of that End of the Tube which is nearest the Center; and at that very Point the Minutes of my Zenith Distance begin to be marked, proceeding from thence onward to sixty Minutes nearest the Limb: Every 10th Minute being number'd and distinguish'd by a fine black Line painted cross the Tube, and every five Minutes by Dots as usual. The Tube is let into the Quadrant, about half way, and the other half is covered by a Piece of Wood, grooved in the same Manner as the Quadrant, and fasten'd to it by a pair of strong Hinges. The Cover is made fast by a Couple of Hasps at each End, and is design'd only to preserve the Tube when not in Use. And thus the Quadrant is finished and fit for Use; and is I think, in it self so plain and simple, that after what has been already said concerning it, it would be needless to trouble you with the Figure of it; especially since any Person who has the Book, may be gratify'd with a Sight of the Instrument it self at the Booksellers.

And as the Use of it, is only to obtain the correct Zenith Distance of any Phenomenon, so the Method of gaining it, will be obvious to the meanest Capacity at first Sight. For in observing by the Sun, it is only holding the Quadrant perpendicular, so as the Bubble may be nearly in the Middle of the Tube;
and

and then move the Ruler, till the Spot fall on the Center of the Cross-lines ; then place the Hair on the Limb exactly on that Degree to which it is nearest. Then observing again, the Limb gives you the Degrees; and the End of the Bubble nearest the Center, the Minute of the Zenith Distance.

But if you observe a Star, then turn aside both the Brass-Plates on the Sights, and hold the Quadrant in your Left-hand ; and placing the End of the Ruler between your Fore-finger and Thumb, move your Right-hand so placed to your Eye ; your Finger on the upper and your Thumb on your lower Eye-bone ; by which means your Eye may be easily brought to be exactly in the Center of the Eye-glass. Turn then to the Object you would observe, and you will very readily see it greatly illuminated : Keep then your Eye on the Object, and move the Ruler at the same time on the Limb, till the Bubble be nearly in the Middle of the Tube. Then place the Ruler (as before) on that Degree to which it is nearest. Then look again, and bringing the Object between the two perpendicular Hairs ; cut it with the Horizontal one, and then any By-stander will observe the Bubble (as before) to settle at the exact Minute of its Zenith Distance ; and the Degree is given by the Ruler.

Thus you may keep observing as long as you think fit ; and if the Object be rising,

the Bubble will give less and less Zenith Distance every time, till perhaps at last it goes back to no Degrees: If so, fix your Ruler to one Degree less, and observing as before, your Bubble will then give 60 Minutes more; and if the Object still continue to rise, it will still give less and less, and at last its correct Meridian Zenith Distance, which you will plainly perceive by the Bubble's retreating back again, and increasing its Zenith Distance; the least being always the true Meridian Zenith Distance.

On the contrary, if you observe any Phenomenon that is setting, it may possibly happen that you may delay the Observation of the Bubble, till it is too near the Limb to be certain of the Truth: In this case, fix the Ruler to one Degree *more*, and the Bubble will then return when your Eye is on the Object to the beginning of the Minutes, and always give you the just Zenith Distance by *Inspection only*.

The Telescope being only of two Glasses, the Object will be always inverted, so that an Observer who is not accustomed to it, when he sees a Star seemingly above the Horizontal Line, will then elevate his Instrument still more, according to the common Method; but the Object being inverted, tho' it appears above, yet it is really below the Horizontal Line; and the Observer must therefore depress his Telescope in order
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to bring the Object down to the Line, which is a *Deceptio Visus*, that a very little Practice will easily overcome.

To this Quadrant belongs a small Lanthorn to burn a Wax-Candle in; which is so contrived as to cast a Light, in time of Observation on the Tube only; and is hung on the Cover of the Tube when open'd, by two Hooks; the Observer holding the Instrument, Lanthorn and all, by which any By-stander may readily see the Settlement of the Bubble.

If any should have occasion for a Quadrant of a larger or smaller Radius than this, I would only leave the following Directions with the Workman.

As first, that the Degrees on the Limb be accurately divided, and if instead of the Hair he would fix a small Brass or Steel Index on the under Side of the Ruler, this might be better and sooner placed to the Division on the Limb, the Hair occasioning some Diffidence, by entirely covering it.

The Tube should be made of the finest and softest Metal; the Bore about four or five Tenths of an Inch in Diameter; and Care taken that in the Blowing of it, the Metal be of such a due Heat, as not to fall to too great a Curvature; and that the Blowers as they draw it out between two of them, do not move their Hands either up or down, especially at the time of its Forming; for
that

that fuch an Attempt to mend a feeming Fault in one Part would certainly fpoil the whole Tube. Gravity alone with a fufficient Extension will give it the moft perfect Form, as I have often experienced. It is moft convenient that the Bore of the Tube fhould incline to an oval Form, the Flat uppermoft ; but this can hardly be attained in the common Way of drawing them, unlefs by Accident: I would therefore advife to make a long, thin, and every way equal Brafs-Ruler; which fupported at each End, would of it felf fall to a curious Curve, the lefs the better; and being fixed on a Piece of Wood, and fupported artfully in fundry Parts of the Ruler, might ferve as a Mould, on which to lay the glowing Tube: which by its own Gravity will fink it felf into a proper Form.

The Tube form'd and Neal'd, let the Workman try the Run of a fmall Bubble every five or ten Minutes throughout the whole Piece, by which he will eafily fee what Part of the Tube will be fitteft for his Purpofe. If he defigns his Inftrument for Sea, he muft have at leaft 90 Minutes on his Tube, befides the Bubble, and Room for Sealing, allowing about half an Inch at each End for that Purpofe; that the Perfon who Seals them may have Subftance enough to work on. Let the Bubble be as fmall, and the Ends Seal'd as thick and as ftrong as poffible.

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The marking of the Minutes on the Tube, I have already given Directions for; but if the Workman like not my Method, he may easily in the same Manner, by a Table of natural Sines and Tangents, form the Minutes of three or four Degrees, to a Radius of ten or twelve Feet, only to mark his Tube correctly by: and having marked one, he may by that, as a Standard, afterwards mark as many as he pleases; by laying the Pattern, and the Tube he would mark, both on the same Plane, and so raising them by a small Screw contrived for that purpose.

Having mark'd his Tube, let him set off 60 Minutes in the Middle, for the Minutes of his Zenith Distance, leaving an equal Remainder at each End exclusive of the 60, and moreover Room for the Bubble also, next the Limb: After which, let him so fix it in his Groove, as before directed, that when the upper Radius is Horizontal, and consequently the other exactly Perpendicular; the End of the Bubble nearest the Center may then rest exactly at the Beginning of the Minutes of his Zenith Distance.

When he first places his Tube on his Plane for marking the Minutes, if he then draws a fine Line on his Tube exactly through the Middle of his Bubble, he may, by that Mark, easily know when the Convex Side of his Tube is uppermost; and exactly in the same
Position

Position in his Groove, as when he first mark'd it on his Plane.

The Eye-glass must always be as large as possible, because (the Object-glass being the same) the Field of the Telescope depends entirely upon it: For the larger the Diameter of this Glass is, the more of the Object is seen at once. And it is necessary that a Telescope for this use at Sea, should take in a very large Compass; five or six Degrees at least, otherwise the Observer will soon lose the Object: Whereas when the Field is large, tho' the Ship be in a good deal of Motion, yet the Object will hardly ever move quite out of it. And so the Observer keeping always a Sight of it, may easily bring it to his Horizontal Hair again. The Eye-glass of my Quadrant is an Inch and an half in Diameter; and takes in just five Degrees with an Object-glass of about one Foot Radius; but I think it would have been much better full two Inches.

Such a Glass in Terrestrial Telescopes would indeed distort the Object, and spoil the Perfection of the Vision; but all that is wanted in our Quadrant is to keep the Object always in View: We have only to observe one single Point, and it matters not what Disproportion other Objects may seem to have with it. The Ledge which the Eye-glass rests upon, must therefore be as small as possible.

If it shall be found necessary still to enlarge the Field of this Telescope for Sea Uses,

Uses, there is another Way of doing it, the *Eye-Glass* being still the same ; and that is by shortning the Focus of your Object-Glass ; for as my Object-Glass is about one Foot Focus, and my Eye-Glass an Inch and an half in Diameter, and takes in a Compass of about five Degrees ; so I find, by Experience, that the same Eye-Glass used with an Object-Glass of half the Length, will nearly double the Field. Whereas, if I use an Object-Glass of two Feet, or double that of mine, then the Field will be diminished to about two Degrees and an half, being but the Half of what it now gives. So that the Field of your Telescope depends jointly on the Diameter of the Eye-Glass, and the Length of the Object-Glass.

Having finish'd the Vane of your Eye-Glass, it must be placed at the Distance of a little more than the Length of its Focus from the End of the Ruler, so that your Eye being in the Center of its Focus, may take in the Whole of the Field.

The Object-Glass should also be of a pretty large Diameter ; because on this depends the Illumination or Brightness of the Object you view. And tho' by this Means the Object be somewhat discolour'd, (which is wholly improper in a Terrestrial Telescope) yet it is not the Colour, but the Altitude of the Object that we are seeking : And certainly it will be best discern'd when most illuminated.

nated. It is true there needs no Art to encrease the Splendour of the Sun, unless when cloudy : And therefore when you observe the Spot of his Image, you had best to cover the Object-Glass, by a Brass Plate, as before described ; leaving only a small Aperture in the Center of about two Tenths of an Inch diameter. And the Cover had best be on that Side of the Sight nearest the Center of your Quadrant, to preserve it from Dust or any Accident.

Your Object-Glass must be truly center'd, otherwise your Instrument will be faulty, as is sometimes more especially the Case of the *Davis's* Quadrant. I shall therefore here lay down a Method of centering them ; which is this.

Place your Glass on a black Paper whereon is a white Speck ; then, with your Face towards the Light, hold the Glass perpendicular to one Eye, which you will know when you see the faint Image of your Eye in the Middle of the Glass. Keeping the Glass thus, move a Pin's Head about two Inches before, and between the Glass and your Eye, and you'll then see two faint Images of the Pin's Head in the Glass ; move the Pin so as that the Heads of both Images may coincide in one ; and to that very Place of the Glass, move the white Speck on the Back of the Glass ; and try it again, and if the white Speck, and the two Images of the Pin's Head, all coincide just under the Image
of

of your Eye, or juſt over the Pin which you hold in your Hand, then the white Speck is rightly placed, and the Part of the Glaſs over it is the true Center of the Glaſs ; which mark with Ink, and then cut the Glaſs to your Diameter ; by paſting the Center of a Paper-Circle truly drawn, upon the black Speck, and clipping your Glaſs to it ; and thus you may examine any Object-Glaſs whatever.

The Quadrant thus finiſhed may be uſed at Sea in the Manner of an Aſtrolabe, by hanging it on the Finger only, which will very readily poize it ſo as that you may eaſily bring the Sun's Image to its proper Place, ſecuring the Inſtrument from falling, by tying a String to it, and flipping the Nooſe over your Wriſt.

Or by hanging it on a Shrowd, or any other convenient Thing, both your Hands would be at liberty nicely to adjust the Sun's Image, whiſt a By-ſtander obſerves the Settlement of the Bubble ; for I would not have the Perſon who holds the Inſtrument attend to any Thing elſe but the Spot.

Or, if needful, the Inſtrument it ſelf may be hung on Gimbols, as the Compaſs is, ſo that the Tube may be always nearly Horizontal : And as the Sun is riſing the Inſtrument may be ſo balanced, by dropping ſmall Shot in a Veſſel placed for that Purpoſe, as gradually to raiſe the Tube in Proportion as the Sun advances in Height.

But without any of these Contrivances, a skilful Observer, by holding the Instrument in his Hand only, may easily take a just Observation; for the Error in the Zenith Distance, as the Quadrant declines Sidewise, either Way from the Perpendicular, increases only in Proportion to a Line of Sines from 90° . So that tho' an Observer should deviate full two Degrees from the Perpendicular, yet his Zenith Distance, in this Case, would be but a very little more than two Minutes greater than it should be.

And for an Observation by Night from the Stars, there needs no such Contrivance, it being a very easy Matter to judge by the cross Hairs when the Instrument is perfectly upright; for we are so accustomed either to the Level, or the Perpendicular, when we look straight forwards, that it is almost impossible we should judge amiss.

I am very sensible that some People will be ready enough to object against this Instrument at first Sight, upon Account of the seeming unsteady Motion of the Bubble. But those who are Judges of such Affairs, will easily agree, that the ready Obedience of that Fluctuation, to every little Motion of the Instrument, is the necessary Consequence of its great Accuracy. For if the Object be stable and constant, and the Instrument exactly directed to it, you will soon find the Bubble to fix accordingly; Tho', for the
steady

steady Direction of it, there is some little Skill required, which, as in most other Cases, is only attainable by Practice.

Let it be considered, that the great Arch of this Instrument is in Proportion really 14 Times larger than that of a common *Davis's* Quadrant ; and that therefore the Deviations, tho' seemingly great, become so only as they are, as it were, magnify'd to the Eye. The Error is not the less in the common Quadrants, tho' it be less perceptible on Account of the Smallness of the Radius. Let any therefore judge which is the most preferable ; that in which the least Error is plainly discernable, or that by which a very great one is scarcely to be perceiv'd ?

But surely some People love to be deceived ; What else can be the Reason why many choose to observe by the Shadow-Vane, rather than by the Glass-Vane that casts a Spot, but because by the first the Error is partly hid, when by the last every Deviation from the Truth is too perceptible ? And they choose the Shadow-Vane, because when the Edge of the Shadow moves parallel to the Horizontal Line, on the Horizon-Vane, they can then only perceive the Perpendicular Deviation, and nothing at all of the Horizontal ; unless they will take Care, at the same Time, to keep the End of the Shadow exactly on the cross Line which answers to it, and which is placed there for that very
Pur-

Purpose. But this they will not do, for then it would be full as easy to observe by the Glass-Vane, and so they would lose the Pleasure, at least, of thinking their Observation just, when it is, in this Case, almost always false. And thus the Instrument-Makers often suffer in their Reputation for Want of Skill in the Observer.

And now I am upon Errors give me leave to take Notice of another, which is really intolerable ; and that is, the foolish Custom of allowing no more than 42 Feet to a Knot upon the Log-Line ; when it has been so long since proved beyond all Dispute, by Mr. *Norwood* in *England*, and *Monf. Picart* in *France*, by express Order of the King, both agreeing, that the just Measure ought to be full 50 Feet ; yet the old *Mumpsimus* is still maintained, and that notwithstanding the contrary is almost generally tho' tacitly acknowledged to be the Truth. What else can be the Reason why an Instrument-Maker is provided with short half Minute-Glasses, as well as those that are full 30 Seconds ? And that if you ask for one, his first Question is, Whether you will have a long one, or a short one ? Doth not this naturally lead People into Errors ? as it lately did an ingenious Friend of mine, who using a long Glass and the short Measure, in a Voyage from *Antigua* towards *England*, being the first Time that he had the Command of a Ship,

Ship, which for that very Reason he was the more circumspect and careful in, being otherwise a very ingenious Artist ; yet by this Means only he over-reckoned just ten Degrees. Which Mistake had been entirely prevented, had he used the 50 Feet instead of the 42 ; for then his Reckoning would have been just out as he made the Land.

For knowing him to have been a very exact Man, I had the Curiosity to recalculate his whole Journal ; and using his own Distances, with my Line of 50 Feet, I found the Difference, between the Land and my Account, no more than 18 Miles in the whole Voyage.

Is it not then a very great Discouragement to those who may have any Thing of considerable Advantage to offer to the Publick, in the Practice of Navigation, when they see People thus stupidly wedded to senseless and unreasonable Customs ; and that rather than they will part with an old Error, they will endeavour to mend it with a new one?

This obstinate Proceeding of *English* Sailors, against Reason and Experience, is as great a Shame to the *English* Nation, as the pertinacious Humour of Drawing by the Horse's Tail, for which they laugh at the old *Irish*. And it is ridiculous to fly for an Objection to the supposed Inaccuracy of the beforementioned Experiments, when it is notorious, that they were not only made
with

with great Care and Caution ; but that the Event actually agrees with the repeated Experience of the Ingenious in their common Practice.

I would fain know whence the Custom of allowing no more than 42 Feet first came. Who was the Author of it, or what Experiments were made to confirm it? For surely those who make this Objection ought to produce some Experiments in Favour of their Custom, made with greater Accuracy. Wherefore should Navigation only, refuse any Helps from actual Experience, when the learned World are daily making such noble Advances in Natural Philosophy, and all other Arts and Sciences are continually receiving such great Improvements, from the laudable Method of building on that grand Foundation of Reason and Experience ?

But to return to my Instrument. Suppose then, that being in the Hand of a common Observer in a very grown Sea, it should by any By-stander be observed to be seemingly uncertain, by the quick and nimble Traverses of the Bubble ; perhaps in this Case attempting to settle somewhere between 10 and 40 Minutes ; yet the Truth will certainly be in the Middle between the contrary Attempts of each End, *viz.* 25 Minutes, as I have frequently experienced. For when I have purposely given my self a reeling, unsteady Motion at the Time of my observing,

so

so as that I have not been able to keep the Sun's Image any thing near its corresponding Spot on the Vane ; yet only by a general Endeavour so to do, I have commonly found that the Middle, between the two Extreams of the Motion, hath given me the true Altitude of the Sun. But this is the worst Case that can possibly happen, for at other Times you may expect the Truth, even to a very small Matter, according to the Conveniency and Serenity of the Season.

But there is another Objection against this Bubble ; and that is, that it will not always keep of the same Length, but will vary perhaps three or four Tenths of an Inch, according to the Temperature of the Air. So that in hot Weather, by reason of its shortness, it will give *more*, and in Cold, *less* than the Truth, about *one Minute*. But as this is well known, so it may be easily corrected, by marking on the Tube, the Length of the Bubble when first adjusted, and allowing for it, as it may afterwards be more or less than the Standard, at the Time of Observation.

C H A P. II.

Of an Observation for finding the Latitude by the Sun, in Failure of a Meridian Altitude.

THE Problem to find the Latitude by two Altitudes of the Sun and the Time between, hath been often publish'd ; and the Method which almost every Author hath proceeded upon hath been this. First, they find the great Circle's Distance between both Suns ; and then the Angle formed by that, and the Sun's Distance from the Pole, at his lowest Altitude ; out of which they *subtract* the Angle formed by the great Circle's Distance and the greatest Zenith Distance ; and then, with the *Remainder*, they proceed to find the Latitude : This Remainder being the Angle included between the Zenith Distance, and Pole's Distance of the Sun at his lowest Altitude ; the opposite Side to which is the Co-Latitude.

And indeed this Method is just in all Latitudes which *exceed* the Sun's greatest Declination. But in North Latitude, if the Sun at his Meridian Altitude be in the North, or if in South Latitude he be in the South, *i. e.* if the Co-Latitude of the Place be greater than the Sun's Distance from the same Pole, then the second Angle, instead
of

of being subſtracted from, muſt be *added to* the firſt. And ſo the *Sum* will be the included Angle by which to find the Latitude, as before.

So that in doubtful Caſes, when the Sun is ſo very near the Zenith, that it cannot be aſcertained whether his Meridian Altitude be North or South, this Method is precarious : But when the Caſe is indiſputable, whether to ſubſtract or add, then the Problem is ſafe and uſeful. For tho' there be ſome Difference in the Pole's Diſtance between the two Obſervations, yet you may ſafely neglect it, it being moſtly ſo ſmall as not to breed any ſenſible Error.

The Deſign of this Problem is only to find the Latitude at Sea in Caſe of an Exigency, and for Want of other better Means. And becauſe the Ship may be ſuppoſ'd to be always in a progreſſive Motion, and to have alter'd her Place conſiderably in the Time between the two Obſervations ; it is therefore neceſſary to add *another Caution*, which is; that there ſhould be always ſome Allowance made to the Time between, and to the greateſt Altitude, according to the Nature of the Courſe you have made. So that if the Ship, during the Time, hath made any conſiderable Eaſting or Weſting, the Difference of Longitude which that amounts to, muſt be added to or ſubſtracted from the given Time between, when reduced to De-

degrees and Minutes, and the Sum if East, or the Difference if West, will be the exact Time between ; in Degrees and Minutes. And so many Minutes or Miles which the Ship hath run to the Southward, or the Northward, of her first Observation, must be also *added to*, or *subtracted from*, the greatest Altitude as taken ; that is, supposing she be in North Latitude, but the contrary in South. All which is only reducing both Observations to the Time and Place when and where the least Altitude was taken.

As suppose I take my first Altitude in the Morning at the *Lizard*, in Latitude 50° . and sailing then in three Hours exactly 19 Miles due West (which in this Latitude is about $\frac{1}{2}$ a Degree, or two Minutes in Time). I then take a second greater Altitude. I am then to consider what Altitude the Sun had just at that Moment at the *Lizard*, and as the *Lizard* now lies just two Minutes to the Eastward of me, so the Sun will have the same Altitude at the *Lizard*, as it had with me two Minutes before, or which is the same thing, and better for my Purpose, the Altitude at the *Lizard*, two Minutes before the three Hours, was just the same as it is now with me. If then I *subtract* two Minutes from the three Hours, the Observations I have taken will be the same as tho' I had taken them both at the *Lizard*, at the Distance of two Hours 58
Mi-

Minutes ; but had I failed East, instead of West, then for the same Reason I must have *added* the two Minutes to the three Hours ; because the Altitude at the *Lizard* would *not* have been the same as with me, till two Minutes *after*.

In order therefore to reduce this to Practice, and because it seldom happens that a Ship keeps always the same Parallel, I shall propose an Example, and shew how to find the true *Difference of Time*, and the *greatest Altitude*.

Admit then that in the Morning there were just three Hours and six Minutes between each Observation, which is just 46 Degrees and 30 Minutes ; and say that my Ship hath sailed W. S. W. 18 Miles in that Time ; and in the supposed Latitude of 51° North, for a small Matter here will not hurt much. First then, I find my Difference of Latitude, and my Departure, and by that my Difference of Longitude. Saying,

	Miles.
Rad. .. Dist. 18 : :	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{S. c. Course } 22. \quad 30 \dots \text{Diff. Lat. } 6, 8 \\ \text{S. - Course } 67. \quad 30 \dots \text{Depart. } 16, 6 \text{ which} \end{array} \right.$
	in Latitude 51 gives 26' Dif. Long. which
sub. (being W.) from the Time in Deg.	46 : 30
	<hr style="width: 20%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
	remains 46 : 4 the just Diff. of
Time between the 2 Altitudes.	

And then the last (and now the greatest) Altitude would have been the same as observ'd, had the Ship continued in the same Parallel
of

of Latitude ; but as by the Proportion above she is gone about 6' further South, so the Altitude (being almost always taken when near the Meridian) of Consequence is 6' greater than it would have been, had it been taken at the first Place. Deduct therefore six Minutes from the last Altitude (always rather * less than more) and the Remainder will be the same as tho' both had been taken at the first Place. But had the Ship sailed 6' further *North*, you must then have *added it* to the last Altitude ; because then it would have been 6' *less* than it should have been. The Reason of all which is so plain, that it is needless to shew wherefore the Contrary will happen in South Latitude.

But because it is the *Zenith Distances* which you calculate with, and which indeed your Quadrant always gives, I shall therefore put down the Rule how you are to add or subtract the Difference of Latitude, to or from the least *Zenith Distance*, in order to find the least Zenith Distance to work by.

In	{	North Lat. and North	}	Course subst.	{	the Difference of	
		South ——— South				Latitude to or from	
		North ——— South				{	the least Zenith Dis-
		South ——— North					

So

* *Note*, This is sufficient for Practice, unless the greatest Altitude be taken at any considerable Distance from the Meridian, and then it will be convenient to use the following Analogy. As s. of the supposed Meridian Altitude, is to the Difference of Latitude the Ship hath made ; so is the s. of the greatest Altitude, to the Difference of Latitude to be allow'd.

So that if the Latitude be increasing you must subtract, but if decreasing you must always add.

And to find the Difference of Time between each Observation, first, put down your whole Time in Degrees and Minutes; and then,

If your Course be $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{East, add} \\ \text{West, subtr.} \end{array} \right\}$ the Difference of Longitude to or from it.

And the Sum or Difference you may proceed to calculate with.

And tho' this may seem a very difficult and tedious Calculation, especially as cumber'd with the Cautions and Rules here lay'd down concerning it; yet the Truth absolutely requires them: And as there may be a Time when other Methods of finding the Latitude may all fail; so it is highly necessary that all Commanders should be acquainted with this.

And tho', for my own Part, I should choose rather to observe by the Stars, for Reasons I shall hereafter mention; yet because there are some who are so entirely wedded to an Observation by the Sun, as to be altogether unprovided with Instruments proper for the Stars, I have thought proper to free this Problem from the Errors it before was liable to, lest the present Grand Requisite in the Art of Navigation, should too often fail for Want of a Meridian Altitude.

To

To encourage therefore such as are willing to be at a little Pains, for the Safety of Ship and Cargo, I shall here propose a Scheme, which with the Directions given concerning it, will greatly shorten and facilitate the Work of this Problem; so that any Person, who is competently acquainted with the Method of working a Proportion by Logarithms, may by it readily find his Latitude in less than half an Hour's Time. First then, let the following Scheme, and the several Proportions with it, be fairly written on a Piece of very thick Paper, and that exactly as it is here printed; after which cut out all the Figures of the Logarithms, and Sines, in Squares, as marked.

The Scheme being thus prepared, and the Figures in the Squares all cut out, as directed, keep the Paper always by you, and whenever you have Occasion to find your Latitude by it, you will have no more to do than to fill up the Blanks, for which Purpose the Directions in the Scheme it self are very sufficient.

But to make all clear, I shall a little explain the Method of Procedure in the adjoining Scheme.

Being then upon a W. S. W. Course, in the supposed Latitude of 51° , and having by me a good Watch and Quadrant, I take my first Zenith Distance 57° , $10'$, and the Person who holds the Watch observes the
Time

The Scheme for finding the Latitude by two Observations of the Sun.

Rad. .. Distance	<input type="text"/>	Miles ::	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} S. \\ S. c. \end{array} \right.$	<input type="text"/>	.. Departure - - - - -	<input type="text"/>	in supposed Latitude
					.. Diff. Lat. - - - - -	<input type="text"/>	Sub. from Time if <i>West</i> ;
							if <i>Decreasing</i> , Add to the
							Least Zenith Distance.

Time of 1st Obs.	<input type="text"/>	h. m. "	--- Zenith Distance -	<input type="text"/>
Co.	<input type="text"/>			
2d Obs.	<input type="text"/>			

Place the Deg.
in these Pro-
portions.
Logarithms.

× Hours by $\frac{1}{15}$	<input type="text"/>	And divide the Min. by 4
Gives Degrees	<input type="text"/>	And Remainder of Min. × by 15
Gives <i>deg.</i>	<input type="text"/>	And the Seconds divide by 4
Gives Min.	<input type="text"/>	
Gives <i>min.</i>	<input type="text"/>	
Sum in Deg. and Min.	<input type="text"/>	Diff. Longitude as above
Whole time in Deg.	<input type="text"/>	

Requisites	
Sun's Distance - -	<input type="text"/> 1st and 4th 1st and 2d
Whole Time - -	<input type="text"/> 2d
$\frac{1}{2}$ Time - -	<input type="text"/> 1st
Greatest Zen. Dist.	<input type="text"/> 2ce in 3d 3d, 4th, 5th
Least Z. D. - - -	<input type="text"/> 3d

Proportion	As Radius	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>
1st.	To S. Sun's Distance	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>
	So S. $\frac{1}{2}$ Time - -	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>
	To S. $\frac{1}{2}$ the 1st Sine	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>
	doubled	<input type="text"/>		
	gives	<input type="text"/>	1st Sine which place 2ce in the 3d Proportion	

IIId.	S. 1st Sine	<input type="text"/>	Co. Ar.	<input type="text"/>	Place this the 1st of the 3d
	S. Whole Time	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>	
	S. Sun's Distance	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>	
	S. 2d Sine - -	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>	

add	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1st \text{ Sine} \\ \text{Great Z. D.} \\ \text{Least Z. D.} \end{array} \right.$	<input type="text"/>	Co-Ar. S.	<input type="text"/>	} add
		<input type="text"/>	Co-Ar. S.	<input type="text"/>	
		<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
		<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
Sub. $\frac{1}{2}$ Sum	$\frac{1}{2}$ Sum	<input type="text"/>	$\frac{1}{2}$ Sum	<input type="text"/>	
1st Sine	1st Sine	<input type="text"/>	Gr Z. D. sub.	<input type="text"/>	
		<input type="text"/>	S.	<input type="text"/>	
		<input type="text"/>	S.	<input type="text"/>	
IIIId.		<input type="text"/>	The $\frac{1}{2}$	<input type="text"/>	
	Doubled	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	
	Leaves	<input type="text"/>	Is the 3d Sine, which Sub. from the 2d Sine above.	<input type="text"/>	
		<input type="text"/>	The included Angle	<input type="text"/>	

IVth.	Radius	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>	
	S. c. included Angle	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>	
	T. Great Z. D. - -	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>	
	T. 4th Arch	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	Is 'T. <input type="text"/> Sun's Distance
			Leaves the Residual Arch	<input type="text"/>	which sub.

Vth.	S. c. 4th Arch - -	<input type="text"/>	Co-Ar.	<input type="text"/>
	S. c. Residual - -	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>
	S. c. Great Z. D. -	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>
	S. Latitude - - -	<input type="text"/>	---	<input type="text"/>

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The Scheme for finding the Latitude by two Observations of the Sun.

Rad. .. Distance	18	Miles ::	W S W	S. 67 : 30	Departure	17	in supposed Latitude	51 n
				S. c. 22 : 30	Diff. Lat.	26	Sub. from Time if West ;	
						6	if Decreasing, Add to the	
						48 : 23	Least Zenith Distance.	
						48 : 29		

Time of 1st. Obs.	h. m. "	9 : 4 : 0	M	Zenith Distance -	57 : 10
Co.		2 : 56 :			
2d Obs.		1 : 1 : 45	A		
		3 : 57 : 45			

Logarithms.
Place the Deg.
in these Pro-
portions.

× Hours by	15	
Gives Degrees	45 : 0	And divide the Min. by 4
Gives	14 :	And Remainder of Min. × by 15
Gives Min.	: 15	And the Seconds divide by 4
Gives	: 11	
m in Deg. and Min.	59 : 26	
Sub.	: 26	Diff. Longitude as above
Whole time in Deg.	59 : 0	

Requisites

Sun's Distance -	84 : 39	1st and 4th	1st and 2d
Whole Time -	59 : 0	2d	
½ Time -	29 : 30	1st	
Greatest Zen. Diff.	57 : 10	2ce in 3d	3d, 4th, 5th
Least Z. D. -	48 : 29	3d	

As Radius		
To S. Sun's Distance	84 : 39	9,998104
So S. ½ Time -	29 : 30	9,692339
To S. ½ the 1st Sine	29 : 22	9,690543
doubled	29 : 22	
gives	58 : 44	1st Sine which place 2ce in the 3d Proportion

Id.	S. 1st Sine	59 : —	Co. Ar.	,068155	Place this the 1st of the 3d
	S. Whole Time	59 : —		9,933066	
	S. Sun's Distance	84 : 39		9,998104	
	S. 2d Sine	86 : 48½		9,999325	

add	1st Sine	58 : 44	Co-Ar. S.	,068155	
	Great Z. D.	57 : 10	Co-Ar. S.	,075591	
	Least Z. D.	48 : 29			
	½ Sum	82 : 11½	½ Sum		
Sub.	1st Sine	58 : 44	Gr Z. D. sub.	9,626350	
		23 : 27½	S.	9,599970	
			S.	19,370066	
				9,685033	
III.	Doubled	28 : 57½	The ½		
		28 : 57½			
		57 : 54½	Is the 3d Sine, which Sub. from the 2d Sine above.		
	Leaves	28 : 54	The included Angle		

IVth.	Radius			
	S. c. included Angle -	28 : 54	9,942239	
	T. Great Z. D. -	57 : 10	10,190252	
	T. 4th Arch		10,132491	Is T. 84 : 39 Sun's Distance
				53 : 36 which sub.
				31 : 31
				Leaves the Residual Arch

Vth.	S. c. 4th Arch -	53 : 36	Co-Ar.	,226639
	S. c. Residual -	31 : 3		9,932838
	S. c. Great Z. D. -	57 : 10		9,734157
	S. Latitude -	51 : 31		9,893634



Time exactly four Minutes past Nine in the Morning: Having then fixt my Scheme upon a fair Paper or Slate, I put down 9 Hours, 4 Minutes, and M. for Morning against the Time; and 57° , $10'$ against the Zenith Distance of my first Observation; which done, my first Observation is finish'd, and I must wait some two, three or four Hours, till I can again have a convenient View of the Sun for my second Observation: And here I shall stop to make a few Remarks.

As first, that it will be convenient when the Weather is uncertain, always to take a Morning Observation by Way of Proviso, lest your Meridian Altitude should fail you; but yet not too soon in the Morning, lest the then great Refractions should spoil the Observation: And also because your greatest Zenith Distance should always be less than the Sun's Distance from the Pole, otherwise the two last Proportions, as by this Scheme, will not answer. Indeed the great Zenith's Distance will almost always fall out less than the Sun's Distance; but if Necessity should oblige you to take it greater; then observe that instead of the Tangent and the Sine Complement of the great Zenith Distance in the fourth and fifth Proportions; you must use the Tangent, and S.c. of the Sun's Distance: And instead of subtracting the fourth Arch from the Sun's Distance in the 4th Proportion, you must subtract it from

F the

the great Zenith's Distance, and your Calculation will then be all right. But this Exception very rarely happens to the Rule or Scheme, which it was very convenient to make general; but whenever it doth, then the Vacancies of four Logarithms may all be taken out of one Page, *viz.* that of the Sun's Distance.

As to the Sun's Distance from the Pole, which is one of your Requisites, I suppose it is needless to shew how to find it: Seeing all who have the Charge of Ships, either are, or should be, perfectly acquainted with it, as the best Means for finding the Variation of the Compass: But lest any should be ignorant of it, I shall here let them know that the Pole's Distance, either of Sun or Star, is no more than the Complement of the Declination, when the Latitude and the Declination are both alike, North or South; but when *contrary*, the one North and the other South, then it is the Declination *added* to 90° . Thus you may know that this Observation was made on the 29th of *August*, 1730, it being taken in North Latitude, and the Declination then North also, $5^{\circ}, 21'$ as the Complement of it, is exactly the Sun's Distance $84^{\circ}, 39'$.

I would also remark that the Exactness of any Observation, as well that by a Meridian Altitude, as this, depends very much on the adjusting the Declination of your
Tables

Tables to the Meridian of your Ship, whether easterly or westerly from the Meridian of *London*; otherwise you may possibly in some Places, and at some Times, have an Error of 24 Minutes in your Latitude, tho' your Observation be ever so true, as hath been largely shewn by others.

And I add also, that by this Scheme, the Curious should have Respect to the Morning or the Evening; as the Declination (to instance when it is increasing) will then be less in the Morning, and more in the Evening than by the Tables; and that, according to the daily Difference of Declination. All that I can say is, that if Men will use Reason they may expect Truth, otherwise they must err, as well in the common Method as by this; tho' this I do assert, that if equal Care be had in both, this is as correct a Method as by the Meridian Altitude.

But it is now high Time to return to our Observation: Having therefore found my Sun's Distance, and adjusted it $84^{\circ}, 39'$, I put it down among my Requisites; as also my supposed Latitude 51 , and my Course W.S.W. or $67^{\circ}, 30'$, and its Complement $22^{\circ}, 30'$, each in their respective Blanks.

And now taking a convenient Time for observing a second Zenith Distance, I find it to be exactly $48^{\circ}, 22'$, and my Companion at that Moment observes my Watch exactly one Minute, and about 45 Seconds after One.

And if this was a good Observation, 'tis well; but if it had not, I should however have put it down by itself, but still have waited, if possibly I might have gotten another more to be depended on; but having gained a good one, I immediately set it down in my Blanks, the Time $1^h, 1', 45''$ against the second Observation; and the Zenith Distance $48^\circ, 22'$, being the least, under the Difference of Latitude, that being to be added to it when found. I then retire to my Cabin and sit down to work; and finding that I have ran 18 Miles since my first Observation, I set that down in my Blank Distance; and by the Proportion * I find my Departure 17, and my Difference of Latitude 6 (always taking it rather less than greater) which I accordingly put down. My Departure 17, in Latitude 51, gives me 26 Difference of Longitude; which being West, according to the Rule, I subtract from my Time when found. Then as the Latitude is decreasing, I add my Difference of Latitude to my least Zenith Distance as they stand; and the Sum is $48^\circ, 29'$ for my least Zenith Distance to work by, which I also put down among my Requisites; placing it against the greatest or least Zenith Distance as it proves, and my first Zenith Distance in the same Manner. I then look how the Blanks of my Time stand, and as the first Time was in the Morning, and the se-

* See Page 29.

cond in the Afternoon, I draw a Line under the first, and under that put down its Complement to 12 Hours being $1^h, 1', 45''$, which I add to the second, and the Sum is three Hours 57 Minutes and 45 Seconds, which I multiply and divide as directed. Thus; the three Hours I multiply by 15, and it gives me 45 Degrees, which I put down: Then the Minutes being 57 divided by 4, give 14 Degrees more, and there remains one Minute, which multiply'd by 15 gives 15 Minutes: Then the Seconds being 45, I divide by 4, and it gives me 11 Minutes more, all which I put down separately as in the Scheme, and the Total in Degrees $59^{\circ}, 26'$, from which I subtract the Difference of Longitude as directed; and the Difference of Time to work by is just $59^{\circ}, 0'$, which I place among my Requisites, and its $\frac{1}{2}$ also $29^{\circ}, 30'$; and so I have all my Requisites; and tho' this may seem tedious to describe, yet in Practice you'll find it very easy: The Blanks always directing you at Sight what to do, and plainly shewing the Progress as you go on, without any Confusion or Burthen to the Memory: The particular Rules when to add, and when to subtract, being all specify'd in the Scheme it self, or the Contrary naturally inferr'd.

And thus having finish'd my Requisites, it appears by my Scheme, that the next Thing I have to do, is to fill up the Degrees

grees of my Proportions, in order to work them; to which I am plainly directed by the first Column after the Requisites: The Figures against which, denote the Number of the Proportion, in which each Requisite is to be placed. Thus against the Sun's Distance you will find 1st and 4th, which signifies according to the Title, that I am to place the Sun's Distance being $84^{\circ}, 39'$, in the Blanks of the *first* and the *fourth* Proportions, where the Word directs me. And tho' the Sun's Distance be also made use of in the second Proportion, yet it is needless to place it there: Because the Logarithm of it, is the same with that in the first Proportion, as I shall presently shew. And so proceed to dispose of the other Requisites in like Manner according to the Directions in the Column. Which done, the whole will be ready to calculate: For tho' you will find many other Blanks in your Scheme besides those for the Logarithms, yet the Directions in the next Column will sufficiently supply that seeming Defect.

Turn then to your Table of Logarithms, and finding the Sine of your Sun's Distance $84^{\circ}, 39'$, place its Logarithm (being 9,998104, as directed in the second Column) in the first and second Proportions.

In like Manner turn to the Degree of your great Zenith Distance $57^{\circ}, 10'$, out of which single Page you may fill up, as by
your

your Column, the Logarithms of this Requisite in your third, fourth and fifth Proportions: Only carefully observe to take the Complement-Arithmeticals of its Sine, for the third Proportion; the Tangent for the fourth, and the Sine Complement for the fifth, as they are marked in each; all which a little Practice will make you very ready in. *

This done, you may begin to work your first Proportion, the Product of which being doubled, produces what I call the first Sine $58^{\circ}, 44'$, which tho' used in the second, you need not put down, it being plainly signified in the Scheme: Only follow the Direction that is against it, which is that you place it twice in the third Proportion: And tho' you may now forget to do it, yet when you come to work the third Proportion, you will soon see by the Blanks, that you will there twice have Occasion for it.

I think it needless to prosecute this Matter any further; for if you will proceed according to the Directions in the Scheme, as you meet with them, you will certainly find the Latitude to be $51^{\circ}, 31'$: This being an Observation actually taken in *London*, tho' I afterwards added the Proportions of the fictitious Run of the Ship, in order to make

* And here I would observe to you, that in every Page of the Logarithms (if you reject the Characteristick) the first and sixth Columns, the second and fifth, and the third and fourth, are alternately the Complement Arithmeticals to each other.

it useful at Sea, where it will almost always happen.

And now let no Man think it strange, as some perhaps will be ready to do, that I should propose a Problem of this Kind, and that only for the Discovery of the Latitude; when perhaps he may imagine that something much less formidable and prolix might have served for attaining his Longitude. Nor let any one be so unwise as to resolve immediately to reject this Method of proceeding, upon Account of the Uncertainty or Trouble that he may imagine to be in the Calculation: But rather let it be considered, that even a common Meridian Altitude cannot be had at Sea, without spending a great deal of Time, and the being at the Trouble of making a great many Observations, Trials and Alterations, before you can be assured that the Sun is fallen; and that in the very Heat of all the Day; and perhaps as it may happen in very turbulent Weather; being always tied to one stated Time. So that after all, it but seldom happens that you can call it a good Observation; and when finished, the finding your Declination, adjusting it to your Meridian, adding or subtracting it to or from your Zenith Distance, and the like, will altogether (Observation and Calculation) probably take up more Time as well as Trouble, than ever yet you have distinctly computed.

Whereas

Whereas all the Trouble that I have in my Way of observing is, only out of one whole Day to chuse two the fittest and calmest Seasons for each single Observation, and to note the Time between. And as to the Time I will leave you to judge; for as this was the first, and indeed the only Time that ever I had observed by this Scheme, so I had a Mind to try what Time it might take to calculate it. And accordingly, laying my Watch all the Time by me, I fairly begun and finished the whole Calculation, exactly in 31 Minutes. Now it cannot be supposed that I purposely designed to be herein more than ordinary expeditious; for it is well known, that any extraordinary Anxiety of that Kind never fails to put a Man besides his Purpose. So that if I had *had* any Design that Way, it is certain that whenever it is performed in an ordinary and practical Way, that then it will be better and sooner attained.

And then as to the Objection, with respect to the Uncertainty of it, I desire you would only take Notice, that after having been very correct (which is very easy) in the Time between, that then the Correctness, in both Cases, entirely depends on the Truth of the Zenith Distance. And I desire to know which is most like to be the best, that which I am tyed to for Time, or that which I have my own Choice in. If any will yet

object the Danger of erring in the Figures, *that* may easily be prevented, by two Persons performing the Operation their own Way, from the same *Data*, and checquing each other. And I know no Reason why the whole Ship's Company, that keep Journals, should not all depend upon one Operation for the Latitude, as well as for their Departure by one Tryal of the Log.



CH A P. III.

Of observing for the Latitude by the Stars.

IT would not perhaps be impossible to propose such Instruments, and lay down such Rules for the finding the apparent Place of the Moon, as might, by comparing it with her Place found by Calculation, be sufficient to the Curious and Industrious, for the finding the Longitude at Sea. But the reducing of it to a Method, sufficiently concise and expeditious for *common Practice*, is really a vain Attempt ; since we find, by Experience, that many who use the Sea, are not to be persuaded to any extraordinary Pains : and therefore wholly decline any thing, that hath but the Appearance of a difficult or uncommon Calculation : Scarcely one in an Hundred (except in *India* Voyages

Voyages) ever troubling themselves with that necessary Requisite in their Art, the Variation of the Compass; tho' it be so easily found, and so greatly useful. Any seeming Difficulty presently discourages them, and therefore it is that they almost wholly decline the use of the Stars; esteeming it more (tho' it be really less) difficult to observe by them than by the Sun. And tho' it be sometimes absolutely necessary, as appears by the frequent Complaints in their Journals, of the Sun's being too near their Zenith; or of the Sun's being overclouded at Noon: Yet of all the Journals that I have ever perused, I could never yet set Eye on any Observation taken from the Stars.

I would willingly hope, that it is chiefly owing to the Difficulty of doing it with the common Instruments; all of which depending on an Horizon, are thereby frequently rendered useless, thro' Fogs, Banks of Clouds, and false Horizons, which are very frequent at Sea, in the Night-time. But I think that Objection will by this Instrument be entirely remov'd, for that it will be nearly as easy to observe with it by Night as by Day. As therefore, there are so many Advantages will accrue to the Voyage, by an Observation from the Stars: So I hope for the Time to come, it will be more generally put in Practice.

The Places of almost all the Stars, are now thro' the Diligence and Industry of many of our great Astronomers, so perfectly settled by correct Observations, that their Declinations may be entirely depended on. The Ignorance of them would really be a Shame for any to plead, since it is so easily attained; especially as far as the 1st and 2^d. Magnitude which will be most useful at Sea. The Conveniency and Frequency of one or other of them, being almost continually upon the Meridian, is an Argument that should excite you to the Use of them: So that if at any Time of the Night, the Meridian only be but clear for a very small Space, you may gain by them a true Latitude: Yea, if you can but for one single Minute, discern any two known Stars, that shall, but as it were, just pass between the raking Clouds, you may by their Altitudes only, find your Latitude.

A Thing of such vast Consequence in the Art of Navigation, that I dare affirm, many Ships, and Lives have been lost for Want of it. How often doth it happen, that you are without the Sun for Weeks together? And how much more frequent is it, that the Sun is unexpectedly overcast by some sudden Cloud, just at the Time when you should gain your Meridian Altitude, and your desired Latitude thereby entirely lost? Whereas, as I have frequently observ'd, great Part of
the

the succeeding Night hath been perfectly serene and clear. Consider only the Necessity of finding your Latitude, when you are drawing near your Coast: The Time that is then often lost for Want of it, and the Danger you are thereby particularly exposed to. Consider the Difficulty of taking an Observation when the Sun is so near your Zenith, that you are obliged to stand with a Compass between your Legs, in order to know whether the Sun be on the Meridian to the *North* or *South* of you. All which might often be easily remedy'd, by means of the Stars; for out of their Variety, you may at any Time chuse such as are then fit for your Purpose.

Besides, their Declinations are almost always the same, some of them varying but a Trifle in an Age; whereas the Sun is continually changing his Declination, which makes it somewhat more difficult to calculate by it: There being an absolute Necessity of having a due Regard not only to the Quantity, but also to the Quality of his Declination, whether *North* or *South*; as also to the Difference of Meridians, between that of your Ship, and the Place for which your Tables were calculated.

Further, the Right Ascensions of the Stars are all ready calculated, and in your Tables: So that you have the Difference of Time between one Stars coming on the Meridian,
and

and that of another, ready given : By which *data*, as I have already hinted, and shall further shew, you may find your Latitude only by taking the Altitude of 2 known Stars at the same Time ; and if I mistake not, my Instrument will give them sufficiently Correct. You may further consider, that the Grand Problem for finding the Longitude at Sea, can never be solved without a competent Acquaintance with the Stars ; and that *that* was one Occasion of the founding the Royal Observatory at *Greenwich*, in order to settle their Places for that very End : 'Tis Pity therefore that you will not qualify your selves to partake of the Labours of the Learned, especially when you may expect something of that Kind will be shortly publish'd to the World.

The Method of observing by the Meridian Altitude of a Star, is exactly the same as by the Sun ; only that the Declination of the Star is always the same, and therefore not so liable to Mistake. But lest any should apprehend a *continued* Observation too troublesome and tedious in the Night-time ; I shall here propose some Methods of finding the Latitude by the Altitude of 2 known Stars, both taken at the same Moment of Time.

P R O B L E M I.

To find the Latitude, by the Zenith Distance of any two known Stars, being on the same Azimuth; or when one Star appears in a perpendicular Line over the other.

Suppose for Example, at any Time when A and B (so called for Distinction sake) are both found in the same Azimuth: I observe the Zenith Distance of A the highest $30^{\circ} : 0'$

B $58 : 30$

Then the Difference of their Z.D. }
will be the Distance of the 2 Stars. } $28 : 30$

Turning then to my Tables, I find that

A's Right Ascension is $78^{\circ} : 20'$ and its Pole's Distance $62 : 36$

B's $104 : 50$ $79 : 42$

So that $26 : 30$ is the Difference of Right Asc.
1st. Then, say

As S. Distance of Stars $28 : 30$ Co-Ar. ,321337

To S. Diff. of R. Asc. $26 : 30$ $9,649527$

So S. Greatest Pole's Distance $79 : 42$ $9,992944$

To S. included Angle $66 : 56$ $9,963808$

And the included Angle thus found is almost always *Acute*; but when the Angle composed by the Distance of the Stars, and the Pole's Distance of the highest Star, happen to be less than 90° ; then the included Angle will be *Obtuse*, or more than 90° . And in this Case, the 4th Arch, found by the next Proportion, must be *subtracted* from

from the greater Side's Complement to 180° ; and the Remainder will be the Residual Arch. But this can very rarely happen, and may easily be discovered by a View of the Stars themselves.

Then the two Sides which include this Angle, are the Zenith Distance, and the Pole's Distance of the highest Star; and the Side opposite to the included Angle, is the Co-Latitude of the Place.

Therefore 2dly.

As Radius.

To S. c. included An. $66 : 56^{\circ} - 9,593067$

So T. Lesser Side $30 : 0 - 9,761439$

62^{\circ} : 36' great. Side

To T. 4th Arch $12 : 45 - 9,354506$ is $12 : 45$ which sub. fra

Leaves the Residual Arch $49 : 51$

Then 3dly.

As S. c. 4th Arch $12 : 45$ — Co-Ar. $,010843$

To S. c. Residual Arch $49 : 51$ — $9,809419$

So S. c. Lesser Side — $30 : 0$ — $9,937531$

To Sine Latitude — $34 : 56$ — $9,757793$

And here observe, that the Triangle of the first Proportion is composed of the Pole's Distance of each Star, and of their Distance from each other: Which being always the same, the Work might be greatly shorten'd by previously calculating the Distance of several chosen Stars, proper for that Purpose; as also the included Angle and its Logarithm: Which being placed orderly in

a Table, together with their Poles Distance, the Observer need only take the Zenith Distance of the highest Star, whenever it is found in a proper Situation; and by the help of his Table, he may readily proceed to find his Latitude by the two last Proportions only.

But as in this Case, one shall be obliged to wait till the Stars shall be both found in the same Azimuth; and as my principal Design by these Problems is to furnish you with the Latitude in Case of Exigency or Distress, that you may never want it, whenever you have but the least Intermission of cloudy hazy Weather; so I shall in the next Problem, propose to you a Method of finding your Latitude by the Stars, in the same Manner, as in the former Chapter I have done by the Sun: Only with this advantageous Difference, that as the Distances of the Stars are always the same, and their Pole's Distance also, for many Years; so to encourage you to this Method, I have eas'd you of half the Labour, by choosing several convenient Stars, and Calculating the Distance of each Pair, which I have put down in a Table, together with the Co-Ars of the Log. Sines of their Distance; as also the Angle of Position formed by the Star's Distance, and Pole's Distance of the *lowest* Star. By which Tables, and the following Problem, you may very

H readily

readily find the Latitude the Moment the Stars appear within View.

P R O B L E M II.

To find the Latitude, by the Zenith Distance of two chosen Stars, and other Requisites in the adjoining Tables.

R U L E.

Add together the Star's Distance, and the two Zenith Distances ; and from the Half of the Sum, subtract separately the Distance of Stars, and the greatest Zenith Distance : Then to the Log. Sines of each Remainder, add the Co-Ars of the Sines of the Distance of Stars, and the greatest Zenith Distance. The Half of these four Logarithms is the Log. of Half the Sine of an Angle, which therefore doubled, and *in most Cases subtracted* from the Angle of Position at the lowest Star, as by Table, gives the included Angle : The containing Sides of which are the Zenith Distance, and the Pole's Distance of the lowest (I say the lowest) Star ; with which two Sides, and the included Angle, you may proceed as by the last Problem to find the Latitude.

But because in this Case, as by the Sun, if the Complement of the Latitude be greater than the Pole's Distance of the Star that is nearest the Meridian, then the first Angle found, must be *added to* the Angle
of

of Position at the lowest Star: I have therefore added a particular Table of Southern Stars, to prevent any Uncertainty in Practice: And that the Rule might be General, always to subtract as by the Scheme; only observing to use the *Particular* Table of *Northern* Stars, till you are in the Latitude of 20 Degrees North; and afterwards the Southern, till you are cross the Line; and when past the Line, you may use the Northern Stars again; but then you must work by their Distances from the *South* Pole, as also by the Complements to 180 Degrees, of the Angles of Position, as by Table. So that to prevent Mistakes, when you use the particular Table of Northern Stars, in South Latitude, you had best make a new Table of them; and instead of the Numbers in the two first Columns, put down their Complements to 180 Degrees.

And now to reduce this to Practice, and not to burthen your Memory with Rules and Cautions, I shall propose a Scheme for this also, in the same Manner as I did for the Sun: Wherein I shall lay the Work plainly before you, and in it, give such Directions as shall be very sufficient to perfect the Calculation.

And for an Example, I shall fill up the *Blanks* of the following Scheme with the Numbers of an Observation taken from the

1st Pair of Stars in the particular Northern Table, *viz.* The Tip of *Pegasus's* Wing, and Mandibula, Mandibula being the lowest, and both in the *Eastern* Hemisphere.

And herein the Method of Procedure is this.

First, I put down the two Zenith Distances, as observed in the Blanks of the first Proportion; then I place the greatest Zenith Distance in the 1st, 2^d, and 3^d Proportions against the Words, greatest Z. D. as they stand in the Scheme; after which turning to the particular Table of *Northern* Stars, I find those I have been observing; being in this Example the first Pair: And as Mandibula is the lowest, so I post the several Numbers standing against it, to the Blanks of each Proportion, as specify'd at the Head of every Column, *viz.* $73^{\circ} : 6'$ in the 1st Proportion; $86^{\circ} : 59'$ in the 2^d; $43^{\circ} : 1'$ twice in the 1st, and 166086 being the Co. Log. of the Distance of Stars in the 1st Proportion; which done, I begin to calculate; and turning to the Logarithm of the greatest Z. D. being $68^{\circ} : 53'$. I put down the Co. Ar. of its Sine in the 1st Proportion, *viz.* .030189; (against which in the Scheme stands T. 2^d; S. c. 3^d; which signifies that I must put down the Tangent of the same in the 2^d, and the Sine Complement of it in the 3^d Proportion :) Then I put down the Logarithms of the two remaining Sines in
the

[illegible]

the 1st Proportion; then adding the Logarithms, I find the $\frac{1}{2}$ to be 9,515613, which is the Log. Sine of $19^{\circ} 8'$, which doubled and substracted from the Angle of Position at the lowest Star, leaves the included Angle; and so proceeding gradually according to the Directions in the Scheme, I found the Latitude to be $51^{\circ} : 35'$. 'Tis needless to give more Examples; for, following these Directions, and observing by any other Pair in the Table, the Result would have been the same Thing: Only *take care always* to use the Numbers that stand against the *lowest Star* in the 2 first Columns of the Table; together with the single Numbers in the other Columns, which are common to both Stars in every Pair; so that had the Tip of *Pegasus's* Wing been the lowest Star, I must then have used $100^{\circ} 28'$ in the 1st Proportion, and $76^{\circ} 18'$ in the Second; which would have been the Case, had the Stars been both in the *Western*, as they were in the *Eastern* Hemisphere at the Time of the Observation.

And now, tho' it be somewhat out of Place, yet I cannot forbear mentioning the following Article, which I accidentally met with upon taking up the *London Journal* of the 26th of *Dec.* last: Where it is said, *That the Expedition Capt. Leaper, bound from Leghorn to Hamburgh, on the 9th Inst. at one at Night, struck three times on the Cerns, but beat off,*
and

and soon after sunk in 10 Fath. Water, about 4 Leagues from the Coast of Wales, where the Crew got on Shore in their Boat the next Morning. They saw the Wrecks of 2 English Ships at the same time; and their Misfortune was owing to their not having made any Land since the 15th of Nov. when they left Cape Spartel.

Now it may be very reasonably supposed that these Ships perished for want of knowing the *proper Means* to find their Latitude; for tho' it is possible they might not have had any opportunity of observing for it by a Meridian Altitude, yet I dare affirm that there were not 3 Days together, in all the Month of *Dec.* in which I cou'd not have been able to have observed the Latitude, either by the Sun or Stars, by the Method here proposed.

But to go on, you may here take Notice, that as by the Sun, so here also, the Rule is made general: Always supposing the greatest Z. D. less than the Pole's Distance of the lowest Star; which in this Case is very easy to do, having such Choice of Stars; and indeed it is much better, that it be so, on account of the Refraction.

But if there be a Necessity of taking it greater, then the Poles's Distance of the lowest Star, and the greatest Z. D. must always be us'd contrary, in the same Manner, as by the Caution given in this Case by the Sun. But it is to be observed, that when the *Southern* Stars are used in *North* Latitude, or the *Northern*, in *South* Latitude, that

that then the greatest Zenith Distance cannot possibly be taken otherwise than according to the Scheme: And therefore the Observer will then be out of all Danger of Error in that Respect.

There is only one Thing more, that I would put you in Mind of, which is, that if the Stars be both *rising*, you should then take the Zenith Distance of the *lowest* first; and on the contrary when both are *setting*, begin with the *highest*; because the small Time that will necessarily be taken up in the 2d Observation, will very much thereby conduce to the rectifying the greater Refraction of the lowest Star.

The particular Tables of the Stars are carefully calculated from the Places they will be in, about the Middle of *November* 1731. They are placed orderly in Pairs, as they will gradually and successively appear above the Horizon. The second Star of each Pair is the lowest when in the *Eastern*, and the first, the lowest, when in the *Western* Hemisphere. The first Column of Numbers, shews the Angle of Position at every Star, *when lowest*; The Second, the Star's Distance from the *North* Pole; The Third, the Distance of the Stars from each other; All in Degrees, Minutes, and Seconds; And the fourth Column shews, the Co. Ar. of the Sine of the Distance of each Pair: And the Numbers at the Head of each Column

under the Title, denote the several Proportions in which they are to be placed in the Scheme ; the Numbers before the Names of the Stars, only referring to the like Numbers in the general Catalogue.

Thus, by these Tables, and the foregoing Scheme, the Latitude may readily be found in any Part of the World, whenever the Stars appear within view, and that not only by my Instrument, but by any other now in Use for that Purpose : These double Observations being herein singularly Advantageous ; for if the Stars you observe, be both rising, or both setting, any thing evenly in Proportion alike, tho' there might be some small Error in the Horizon, or otherwise ; yet the one Error will balance the other. For suppose you observe two Stars both at the same Time, and about a Quarter of an Hour after, when they are somewhat risen, you observe them again, you will find that the Difference of their Altitudes at the first Observation, will scarcely differ any Thing from their Difference at the Second. And so if you calculate the Latitude, by the Observations of each Time separately, you'll find they will both produce the same Latitude. So that had your Instrument by any Means erroneously given you nearly the same Altitudes at the 1st Observation, which it really did give you at the Second ; yet you could not thereby have greatly erred in
your

your Latitude, the one Error being proportionable to the other.

For my Part, I find the Advantage of this Method of observing so great, that tho' at first, I only design'd it in Failure of a Meridian Altitude, yet I now really think it preferable to it ; especially where there is occasion to find either the Hour or the Azimuth at the same Time ; because having the included Angle given, I could by the same *Data* readily find both by this easy Proportion,

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \text{S. c. Lat.} \cdots \text{S. included Ang.} & \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{S. greatest Z. D.} \cdots \text{S. Hour} \\ \text{S. Po. Dist. lowest} * \\ \text{or by the Sun,} \\ \text{S. Sun's Distance.} \end{array} \right\} & \cdots \text{Azim.}
 \end{array}$$

whether less or more than 90° might easily be judged by the Time and Season.

But however advantageous this Method of observing by the Stars, may prove to those who are acquainted with them, it will be entirely useless to those who are ignorant of them. That nothing therefore might be wanting, in order to render this a complete Guide to the Knowledge of the Stars ; I have here given a general Catalogue of all the principal Stars, with their right Ascensions and Declinations ; as also a Table of the right Ascension of the Sun for every Day of the Year. And at the End of the Book, I have added a Map of the *Northern* Stars projected on the Plane of the Equator, as also another of the Equinoctial Stars,

wherein the Stars are laid down on each Side of the Equinoctial, and thereby their Position one with another the better discerned ; and in both I have put down all the principal Stars as they are commonly inserted in Books of Navigation : Tho' without the Figures or Names of the Constellations, to prevent Confusion : Only numbering them on the Edge of the Map, whereby they may easily be distinguished one from another ; the Numbers in the Map referring to the same Numbers as they stand in the general Catalogue.

The Stars are chiefly of the 1st, 2^d, or 3^d Magnitude, and the Numbers belonging to them are all placed without the Body of the Maps, the better to preserve the Symmetry and Likeness of the general Appearance : The small Stars and other Points without Numbers, and adjoining to some of the principal Stars, being only inserted as they render those Stars more particularly remarkable. And tho' the principal Stars are *not* number'd in the Body of the Map, yet if you lay a Ruler on the Center, suppose of the *Northern* Map, and cause the Edge of it to cut any principal Star, the End of the Ruler will cut the Number of it in the Circumference ; or if you fix a Thread to the Center ; it will, when extended, equally cut any Star and the Number belonging to it. Where the Thread cuts two principal Stars,
you

you will find two Numbers in the Margin answering to them, the Number nearest the Center answering to the *Star*, that is nearest the Center.

In like Manner, the Numbers of the principal Stars in the *Equinoctial* Map, may be readily found, by laying a Piece of Paper folded exactly in the Manner of a Square. One Edge of the Square on the middle Line, which answers to the Equator; and then the other Edge of the Square will cut any Star, and the Number belonging to it, on the outside Edge of the Map. And where there are double Numbers, they are placed in the same Order with the Stars belonging to them; that Number that is *nearest* the Equinoctial, belonging to that *Star* that is also nearest the Equinoctial. The Numbers on the Top, or *North* Part of the Map belonging to the *Northern* Stars; those on the Bottom or *South*, to the Stars that are on the *South* Side of the Equinoctial. But without using either a Thread or a Square, I apprehend it will be very easy to discern the Number that belongs to any particular Star.

And where there is a Figure of 0 in the Margin, it signifies, that the Star in the Map that belongs to it, is *not* in the general Catalogue, such Stars being placed in the Map, only to give it a general Likeness with the Heavens.

They

They are all laid down contrary to the common Method which represents the *Convex* of the Globe: Whereas this represents the *Concave*; and is exactly the very Picture of the Heavens. So that any Person who holds, for Instance, the *Northern* Map before him, and looks towards the *North*, will see the same Stars in the Heavens, which are represented in the Map, and that in the same Order, and without any Confusion.

In like Manner holding the Equinoctial Map, in the Manner hereafter represented, and looking towards the *South* in *North Latitude*, the Person will then see all the principal Stars that are near the Equinoctial, *nearly* in the same Position as on his Map.

And the Map may easily be placed in the same Position with the Heavens, at any Time; only by knowing what remarkable Star is then on the Meridian. Which to find, Observe the following Rule.

To the Right Ascension of the Sun (as *per* Table) always *add* the supposed Hour of the Night, reckoning One o' Clock 13 Hours; Two 14, &c. and the Sum is the Right Ascension of a Star that is then on the Meridian (always subtracting 24 Hours if the Sum exceed 24.)

Thus

Thus for EXAMPLE.

The 1st Nov. 1730, at 49 Minutes past 8 at Night, I would know what Star is on the Meridian.

	h.	m.	
To —	15	: 10	the Sun's R. A.
Add —	8	: 49	the suppos'd Hour.

The Sum is 23 : 59, and looking then for this Sum among the Right Ascensions of the Stars in the general Catalogue, I find it standing against the Tip of *Pegasus's* Wing, which is therefore then on the Meridian.

A G A I N.

The same Night later, at 15 Minutes past 4, I would know what Star is *then* on the Meridian.

	h.	m.	
To —	15	: 10	the Sun's R. A.
Add —	16	: 15	the Hour of the Morning.

And it gives 31 : 25 which being above a Day, accord. to the Rule.
Subtract — 24 : 0

And the Rem. 7 : 25 is the Right Ascension of *Canicula*, which is therefore then on the Meridian.

Thus, by finding the Star that is at any Time on the Meridian, you may easily hold your Map exactly in the same Position with the Heavens; and so you may learn all the other Stars that are adjacent to it, by comparing them

them together with your Map; which then answers the End, better than a Globe in that respect.

Thus by turning the Equinoctial Map inwards, into a Circular Form, and holding it before you towards the *South*, so as that a Line from the Star then on the Meridian in the Heavens, may first pass thro' the corresponding Star in your Map, and the supposed Center of its Equinoctial, you will then see a perfect Representation of all the principal Stars in the Concave Surface of your Map, and that in the same Situation with those in the Heavens. And by supposing a Plane to cut the Center of your Equinoctial, parallel to the Horizon, all that are then above that supposed Plane, will be the Stars that are then visible towards the *South*.

If any should have occasion to take the Meridian Altitude of a Star; the exact Time of its coming to the Meridian, is readily found by this

R U L E.

Subtract the Sun's R. Ascension from the Right Ascension of the Star, 24 Hours being first added to it when less than the Sun's: And the Remainder is the Hour of the Star's coming to the Meridian; all above 12 being the Hours of the next Morning.

Thus,

Thus, as in the former *EXAMPLES* of
the 1st November, 1730.

	h.	m.
The Right Ascen. of <i>Pegasus's</i> Wing, is ———	23	59
From which if you subtract the Sun's R. A. —	15	18
	8 : 49	

The Remainder is the Time ——— 8 : 49 when
that Star will come to the Meridian.

	h.	m.
And so in the 2d Example —	7	25
R. A. of the Sun, you must add —	24	0
	24 : 25	

And from the Sum ———	31	25
Subtract the Sun's R. A. ———	15	10
	16 : 15	

And the Remainder ——— 16 : 15 answers to 15' past
12 :

4 : 15

4 in the Morning, the Time of *Procyon's* coming to the Me-
ridian.

I have endeavoured, as near as possible, to
make the Maps conformable to the Appear-
ance; but as the Eye of a Spectator is al-
ways fix'd in the Center of the Heavens,
so it is impossible to preserve the same Si-
tuation exactly, when the Stars must be laid
down on a Plane: The Stars in the *Northern*
Map that are nearest the Equinoctial being
somewhat distorted; as on the other Hand,
are those of the Equinoctial Map that are
nearest the Pole; as may easily be discerned
by comparing them with the Heavens.

But this will prove no ways inconvenient
to a Learner, if he take Care to compare

K

those

those Stars that are nearest the Pole with the *Northern Map*, and such as are nearest the Equinoctial, with the *Equinoctial Map*. These being in both Maps, nearly in the same Situation with those in the Heavens.

Thus, by a frequent comparing the Stars in the Maps, with those in the Heavens, any Person may very readily and easily be acquainted with them. And by now and then trying the Method of finding the Latitude as here proposed, and comparing it with the common One, the diligent Observer will not only be more expert in the Calculation, but also confirm'd in the Truth of it, and that he may safely trust to it in Case of any Exigency or Distress.

T H E



The Particular Table of *Northern Stars*,

		Ang. of Po-	*'s Dist:	Distance	Co. Ar. of
		sition, when	from N:	from	the Sine
		lowest	Pole	each oth:	of dist. of*
		1st Propor.	2d.	2 ^{ce} in 1st.	1st.
		o ' "	o ' "	o ' "	
75	<i>The Tip of Peg's Wing.</i>	100 27 42	76 18 14		
11	<i>Mandibula</i>	73 6 10	86 59 0	43 1 0	,166086
11	<i>Mandibula</i>	83 31 9	86 59 0		
18	<i>Orion's left shoulder</i>	93 45 8	83 55 10	35 37 26	,234733
18	<i>Orion's left shoulder</i>	92 11 12	83 55 10		
27	<i>The little Dog Procyon</i>	87 22 50	84 6 12	33 25 38	,258945
27	<i>The little Dog</i>	75 48 51	84 6 12		
30	<i>The Lyon's Heart</i>	97 45 11	76 44 48	37 22 5	,216859
30	<i>The Lyon's Heart</i>	73 38 24	76 44 48		
44	<i>Arcturus</i>	93 42 30	69 23 0	59 46 4	,063490
44	<i>Arcturus</i>	91 13 20	69 23 0		
54	<i>Serpentarius's Head</i>	73 36 31	77 13 38	48 6 52	,128147
54	<i>Serpentarius's Head</i>	94 31 42	77 13 38		
58	<i>The Eagle</i>	79 9 37	81 49 3	33 31 47	,257770
58	<i>The Eagle</i>	86 54 51	81 49 3		
65	<i>Pegasus's Mouth</i>	88 51 30	81 19 6	28 3 21	,327596
65	<i>Pegasus's Mouth</i>	78 43 5	81 19 6		
75	<i>The Tip of Peg's Wing</i>	93 49 33	76 18 14	36 43 9	,223375

The Particular Table of *Southern Stars*.

		Ang. of Po-	*'s Dist.	Distance	CoAr. of
		sition, when	from N.	from	the Sine
		lowest	Pole	each oth.	dist. of *
		1st Propor.	zd.	2 ^{ce} in 1st.	1st.
		° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	
4	<i>The S. in Whale's Tail</i>	88 59 30	109 27 54		
17	<i>Orion's left Foot</i>	107 35 4	98 32 27	66 24 2	,037931
17	<i>Orion's left Foot</i>	85 56 0	98 32 27		
29	<i>Hydra's Heart</i>	95 45 15	97 30 48	62 31 26	,051977
29	<i>Hydra's Heart</i>	96 51 52	97 30 48		
40	<i>The Virgin's Spike</i>	87 7 50	99 45 14	58 27 30	,069423
40	<i>The Virgin's Spike</i>	116 38 34	99 45 14		
51	<i>The Scorpion's Heart</i>	78 5 7	115 48 11	45 53 45	,143830
51	<i>The Scorpion's Heart</i>	88 34 0	115 48 11		
59	<i>The N. Horn of the Goat</i>	112 21 15	103 18 33	55 8 13	,085911
59	<i>The N. Horn of the Goat</i>	122 28 58	103 18 33		
71	<i>Fomahaut</i>	73 19 43	121 1 40	40 43 55	,185405

In the *Goat's-Horn* there are two small Stars, *North* and *South* of each other, the Nothermost of which is really a double Star.

Note therefore, that it is the Westermost or preceeding of the double Star, that is used in the Table above.

The General Catalogue of all the Principal S T A R S, 1731.

N ^o .	Names of the Stars.	Declination ° ' "	Mag- ni- tude	R. Asc. H. M.	Diff. Dec. in 72 Years Add or Sub.
1	The N in the Whales Tail	S 10 19 4	3	0 6	S 24
2	The B in the Phoenix's Neck	S 43 43 0	2	0 8	S 21
3	The Breast of Cassiopæa	N 55 5 1	2	0 26	A 24
4	The S in the Whales Tail	S 19 27 54	2	0 30	S 24
5	The North Star	N 87 52 24	3	0 38	A 24
6	The Girdle of Andromeda	N 34 10 47	2	0 55	A 23
7	The Knee of Cassiopæa	N 58 50 18	3	1 9	A 23
8	<i>Acarner</i> in Eridanus	S 58 38 0	1	1 27	S 22
9	Andromeda's left Foot	N 41 1 17	2	1 48	A 21
10	The brightest in Aries	N 22 10 30	3	1 52	A 21
11	The B in Whales jaw <i>Mandib.</i>	N 3 1 0	3	2 49	A 18
12	Medusa's Head	N 39 54 3	2	2 51	A 18
13	The brightest in Perseus	N 48 52 47	2	3 5	A 17
14	The brightest of the 7 Stars	N 23 14 37	3	3 32	A 14
15	The Bull's Eye <i>Aldebaran</i>	N 15 56 11	1	4 21	A 10
16	The Goat <i>Capella</i>	N 45 41 50	1	4 57	A 7
17	Orion's left Foot	S 8 32 27	1	5 2	S 6
18	Orion's left Shoulder	N 6 4 50	2	5 11	A 6
19	The 1st in Orion's Girdle	S 0 31 56	2	5 18	S 4
20	Orion's right Knee	S 9 47 46	2	5 35	S 3
21	Auriga's right Shoulder	N 44 53 23	2	5 40	A 2
22	Orion's right Shoulder	N 7 19 24	2	5 41	A 2
23	<i>Canopus</i>	S 51 37 0	1	6 19	A 2
24	The brightest in Gem. Feet	N 16 35 26	2	6 22	S 2
25	The great Dog <i>Sirius</i>	S 16 21 16	1	6 33	A 4
26	The first Twin <i>Castor</i>	N 32 26 31	2	7 17	S 8
27	The little Dog <i>Procyon</i>	N 5 53 48	1	7 25	S 9
28	The second Twin <i>Pollux</i>	N 28 38 42	2	7 29	S 9
29	Hydra's Heart	S 7 30 48	1	9 14	A 18
30	The Lion's Heart <i>Regulus</i>	N 13 15 12	1	9 54	S 20

N ^o .	Names of the Stars.	Declination		Mag- ni- tude	R. Asc. H. M.		Diff. Dec. in 72 Years Add or Sub.
		°	'				
31	The Lion's Neck	N	21 10 56	2	10	5	S 21
32	The Southern Pointer	N	57 48 55	2	10	45	S 23
33	The Northern Pointer	N	63 12 3	2	10	47	S 23
34	The Lion's Loins	N	21 59 4	2	11	0	S 23
35	The Lion's Tail	N	16 3 50	2	11	51	S 24
36	The great Bear's Hip	N	55 11 17	2	11	40	S 24
37	The Centaur's right Foot	S	58 6 0	1	11	59	A 24
38	The great Bear's Rump	N	58 32 54	2	12	2	S 24
39	The 1st * in his Tail	N	57 27 22	2	12	42	S 24
40	The Virgin's Spike	S	9 45 14	1	13	11	A 23
41	The 2d * great Bear's Tail	N	56 20 35	2	13	13	S 23
42	The Centaur's left Knee	S	59 9 0	2	13	33	A 22
43	The tip of the gr. Bear's Tail	N	50 39 42	2	13	37	S 22
44	<i>Arcturus</i>	N	20 37 0	1	14	3	S 21
45	The South Balance	S	14 54 19	3	14	36	A 19
46	The B guard little Bear	N	75 14 42	3	14	52	S 17
47	The B in the Beam of Libra	S	8 22 27	3	15	3	A 17
48	The Northern Crown	N	27 37 56	1	15	23	S 15
49	The B in the Serpent's Neck	N	7 17 17	3	15	31	S 14
50	The N in Serpentar. L. Ha.	S	2 58 55	3	16	1	A 12
51	The Scorpion's Heart <i>Antares</i>	S	25 48 11	1	16	13	A 11
52	Hercules's Head	N	14 42 27	3	17	2	S 6
53	The Scorpion's Tail	S	36 51 59	3	17	15	A 5
54	Serpentarius's Head	N	12 46 22	3	17	22	S 4
55	Draco's Eye	N	52 31 2	3	17	24	S 4
56	The Harp <i>Lyra</i>	N	38 33 16	1	18	28	A 3
57	The Eagle's Tail	N	13 29 10	3	18	53	A 5
58	The B * in the Eagle	N	8 10 57	1	19	38	A 10
59	The N Horn <i>vs</i> Wn. doub. *	S	13 18 33	3	20	3	S 12
60	The B in the Peacock's Head	S	57 41 0	2	19	54	S 12
61	The Swan's North Wing	N	44 29 55	3	19	36	A 10
62	The Breast of the Swan	N	39 24 56	3	20	13	A 13
63	The Tail of the Swan	N	44 20 33	2	20	32	A 15
64	Aquarius's left Shoulder	S	6 43 45	3	21	17	S 18
65	Pegasus's Mouth	N	8 40 0	3	21	31	A 19

N ^o .	Names of the Stars.	Declination			Mag- ni- tude	R. Asc. H. M.		Diff. <i>Dec.</i> in 72 Years Add or Sub.
		°	'	"				
66	The Goat's Tail E of the 2	S	17	18 40	3	21	32	S 19
67	The Crane's Head	S	38	47 0	2	21	33	S 19
68	The Crane's left Wing	S	48	14 0	3	21	52	S 19
69	Aquarius's right Shoulder	S	1	36 35	3	21	52	S 20
70	The B in the Crane's Tail	S	47	31 0	2	22	25	S 22
71	Fomahaut	S	31	1 40	1	22	43	S 23
72	Pegasus's Leg <i>Scheat</i>	N	26	37 35	2	22	50	A 23
73	Pegasus's Shoulder <i>Markab</i>	N	13	45 30	2	22	51	A 23
74	Andromeda's Head	N	27	36 5	2	23	54	A 24
75	The tip of Pegasus's Wing.	N	13	41 0	2	23	59	A 24

Note, N Signifies North.

S - - - - South.

B - - - - Brightest.

A Table of the Sun's Right---

	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>
D.	H.M.	H.M.	H. M.	H.M.	H.M.	H.M.
1	19 36	21 45	23 31	1 24	3 17	5 21
2	19 40	21 49	23 35	1 28	3 21	5 25
3	19 45	21 53	23 39	1 32	3 25	5 29
4	19 49	21 56	23 42	1 35	3 29	5 33
5	19 53	22 0	23 46	1 39	3 33	5 37
6	19 58	22 4	23 50	1 42	3 36	5 42
7	20 2	22 8	23 53	1 46	3 40	5 46
8	20 6	22 12	23 57	1 49	3 44	5 51
9	20 10	22 16	0 1	1 53	3 48	5 55
10	20 15	22 20	0 4	1 57	3 52	5 59
11	20 19	22 24	0 8	2 1	3 56	6 3
12	20 23	22 27	0 12	2 4	4 0	6 7
13	20 28	22 31	0 15	2 8	4 4	6 11
14	20 32	22 35	0 18	2 12	4 9	6 15
15	20 36	22 39	0 22	2 16	4 13	6 19
16	20 40	22 43	0 26	2 20	4 17	6 24
17	20 44	22 46	0 29	2 24	4 21	6 28
18	20 48	22 50	0 33	2 28	4 25	6 32
19	20 52	22 54	0 37	2 32	4 29	6 36
20	20 56	22 58	0 41	2 36	4 33	6 40
21	21 0	23 2	0 44	2 39	4 37	6 44
22	21 4	23 5	0 48	2 43	4 41	6 48
23	21 9	23 9	0 52	2 47	4 45	6 52
24	21 13	23 13	0 55	2 50	4 49	6 57
25	21 17	23 16	0 59	2 54	4 53	7 01
26	21 21	23 20	1 3	2 58	4 57	7 5
27	21 25	23 24	1 6	3 2	5 2	7 9
28	21 29	23 28	1 9	3 6	5 6	7 13
29	21 33		1 13	3 10	5 9	7 17
30	21 37		1 17	3 13	5 13	7 21
31	21 41		1 21		5 17	

Ascension in Hours and Minutes.

	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>
D.	H.M.	H.M.	H. M.	H.M.	H.M.	H.M.
1	7 25	9 28	11 22	13 11	15 11	17 18
2	7 29	9 32	11 26	13 14	15 15	17 23
3	7 33	9 36	11 29	13 18	15 19	17 27
4	7 37	9 39	11 33	13 22	15 23	17 31
5	7 41	9 42	11 36	13 25	15 27	17 36
6	7 46	9 46	11 39	13 29	15 31	17 40
7	7 50	9 50	11 43	13 33	15 35	17 45
8	7 54	9 54	11 47	13 37	15 39	17 49
9	7 58	9 58	11 50	13 40	15 43	17 53
10	8 2	10 2	11 54	13 44	15 48	17 58
11	8 6	10 5	11 58	13 48	15 52	18 2
12	8 10	10 9	12 1	13 51	15 56	18 6
13	8 14	10 13	12 5	13 55	16 0	18 11
14	8 18	10 17	12 9	13 59	16 4	18 16
15	8 22	10 21	12 13	14 3	16 9	18 20
16	8 26	10 24	12 17	14 7	16 13	18 24
17	8 30	10 28	12 20	14 11	16 17	18 29
18	8 34	10 32	12 24	14 15	16 22	18 33
19	8 37	10 35	12 28	14 19	16 26	18 38
20	8 41	10 39	12 31	14 23	16 30	18 42
21	8 45	10 42	12 35	14 26	16 34	18 47
22	8 49	10 46	12 38	14 30	16 39	18 51
23	8 53	10 50	12 42	14 34	16 43	18 56
24	8 57	10 53	12 46	14 38	16 47	19 0
25	9 1	10 57	12 49	14 42	16 52	19 5
26	9 5	11 0	12 53	14 46	16 56	19 9
27	9 9	11 4	12 57	14 50	17 1	19 13
28	9 13	11 8	13 0	14 54	17 5	19 18
29	9 17	11 12	13 4	14 59	17 9	19 22
30	9 21	11 15	13 8	15 3	17 14	19 27
31	9 25	11 19		15 7		19 31

F I N I S.

The Northern Map.



1772

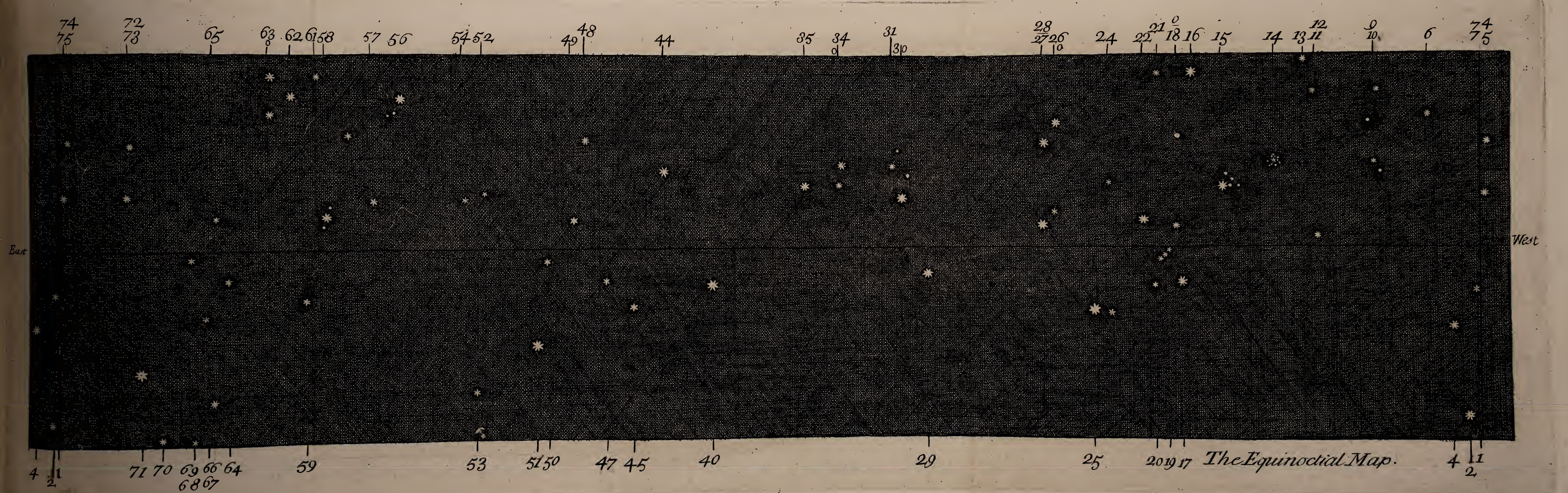
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